

## **FINAL**

### **BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

There was a **special** meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Schulman (via phone), Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Wayne Hypolite, Joseph Washington (entered at 6:40 p.m.), Joseph Merritt, Joel Neuwirth, Patrick DeLorenzo and Leon Rivers.

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager, Attorney Marc Needelman and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent was: Councilor Derrick Seldon

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

### **ANNOUCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

Deputy Mayor Gamble reminded residents to be pleasant and respectful when contacting Town Hall regarding mailboxes and snow plowed driveways during this winter season.

### **Certificate of Recognition to Deringer Ney**

Deputy Mayor Gamble presented a recognition certificate to Mr. David Barnum, Chief Operating Officer/President and Mr. Jim Cummings, Vice President of Operations for Deringer Ney. Deringer Ney has been in Bloomfield since 1956, as the market leader for manufacturing electrical contact parts and assemblies. They hire local talent of a diverse workforce and provide quality products worldwide.

## **CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS**

1. **Jane Low, 20 Prospect Street**, continue to advocate for increased staffing at the Department of Public Works. Mrs. Low mentioned the additional responsibilities of existing staff regarding the maintenance for the adopted Master Parks Plan.
2. **Mary Murray, 14 Maple Avenue**, commended the Department of Public Works for a job well done snow plowing the streets and public places during this winter season.

## **REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES**

Administration & Education – Councilor Rivers mentioned that the subcommittee will continue to work diligently with the consultant and town administration regarding the Affirmative Action Plan and its updated presentation to the full Council.

Committee on Committees – There will be a special meeting held in the near future for this subcommittee.

Golf – The next subcommittee will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Land Use & Economic Development – This report was deferred to Council business agenda items for further discussion and review.

Public Safety – Councilor Washington read a detailed report of the last meeting held on January 12, 2015. The regular meeting scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2015 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Finance – Councilor Hypolite gave a brief synopsis of the last meeting held on February 17, 2015. In summary, the committee discussed the June 30, 2014 Audit, which was founded as an unqualified and clean report. The January 2015 Financial Review presented well in revenues and expenditures. There will be a request to transfer funds to the Department of Public Works for the snow budget to cover expenses and overtime costs. Overall, the town is well balanced fiscally going into the FY 2015/2016 budget process.

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**FY 14/15-40: Consider and Take Action Regarding Bloomfield Board of Education and Bloomfield Administrators Association Contract**

Mr. Bill Joslyn, Human Resources Specialist stated that the Bloomfield Board of Education reached a tentative agreement with the Bloomfield Administrators Association (BAA). Mr. Paul Guzzo, President of the BAA was very instrumental in successful negotiations of this contract.

The agreement consists of a three year contract beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 with a reopener on health insurance in year three.

The following information list below outlines the details of this contract:

#### Tax Shelter Annuity

Year 1 - \$1000-\$2000 per Administrator (depending on years of service) - .6% of total salary

Year 2 - \$1250-\$2250 per Administrator (depending on years of service) - .8% of total salary

Year 3 - \$1500-\$2500 per Administrator (depending on years of service) – 1.2% of total salary

#### General Wage Increase

Year 1 – 2.1% increase

Year 2 – 1.7% increase

Year 3 – 1.5% increase

Group Long-term Disability Plan Insurance – Increased the monthly maximum benefit from \$2000 per month to \$4000 per month.

#### Health Savings Account Employee Share

Year 1 – no change 12%

Year 2 – 1% increase to 13%

Year 3 – 1% increase to 14%

#### Language Clarifications

Article VI Reduction in Force and Termination

Article IX Sec 14.4 – Administrator Assignments

**It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to approve the contract between the Bloomfield Board of Education and the Bloomfield Administrators Association.**

Mayor Schulman stated that the contract is fiscally prudent and is in favor to reward performance increases. He also inquired if this contract was consistent with other town agreements signed. Mr. Joselin stated that the contract is consistent with Teachers and Administrators Union statewide.

Councilor Neuwirth inquired about the salary of the Bloomfield High School principal and its comparison to student enrollment as well as any increases in staff at the Administration level.

Councilor Hypolite inquired the general standard for salary of Bloomfield Administrators compared to statewide projections. Bloomfield has been placed in the upper middle of the salary index.

#### **FY 14/15-41: Presentation and Discussion Concerning Bloomfield Town Green Revitalization Project and Branding**

Ms. Stephanie White of Fuss & O'Neil and Mr. Jonathan Thiesse, Town Engineer presented the conceptual plan for the Bloomfield Town Green Revitalization Project and Branding.

Ms. White stated that the current set up of the town green has decreased user ship, visibility issues and the space is not maximizing its potential. The new uses for the town green include shaded areas with trees, gazebo, lunch carts, maximize open space, ornamental plantings and decorative fencing.

Councilor Hypolite inquired about the connectivity to Filley Park and estimations regarding increased user ship with timeframes.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that the revitalization of the town green would increase concert venues from 8 to 10 during the summer months. Vendor stakeholders also have increased business and interest during this time. In addition, increased vehicular and pedestrian activity in the area.

Mayor Schulman stated that developing a concept and brand for Bloomfield is critically important.

Mr. Jerry Long, 17 Avery Road, member of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) spoke regarding the branding for the town. The EDC met with consultants Goman & York on January 13, 2015 to discuss branding options for the town. The unanimous consensus of the EDC was decided to rename the center of town to "Downtown Bloomfield".

Councilor Neuwirth suggested referring this item to the Land Use & Economic Development subcommittee for further discussion and review.

Deputy Mayor Gamble stated that the Council is in full agreement of the conceptual plan for revitalizing the town green.

#### **FY 14/15-42: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Refunds**

It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to approve tax refunds in accordance with Section 12 of the Connecticut General Statutes. (See Attached)

#### **FY 14/15-43: Consider and Take Action Regarding January Monthly Financial Report 2015/2015**

There were no specific questions or concerns regarding this report.

#### **REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER**

##### **Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr. reported the following updates:

- There will be an updated report at the next scheduled Council meeting on the progress with the Valco site on Cottage Grove Road.
- The town remains active in the request for the demolition permit for the property located at Mountain Avenue and Maple Street. There is a possibility that remedial work needs to be completed at the property.
- The town has submitted several grant applications for improvement of structures at Lisa Lane as well as the barns at Filley House on Mountain Avenue.
- On February 23, 2015, the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) will possibly vote on a resolution for permit for plans at the proposed streetscape project at Filley Park.
- The town also submitted an application for \$500,000 to the State Bond Commission for streetscape work on lower Blue Hills Avenue.

- All budget meetings with department heads have been completed. On March 10, 2015, the discussions regarding the FY 2015/2016 budget season will begin with the Town Manager's review.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Hypolite to approve the minutes of January 12, 2015.**

**VOTE:            AYE: W. Hypolite, S. Schulman, J. Gamble, L. Rivers, J. Washington, J. Merritt, P. DeLorenzo, J. Neuwirth**  
**NAY: None**  
**ABSTAIN: None**

**The motion passes.**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilor DeLorenzo commended the Department of Public Works for a job well done with snow removal across town. He also expressed his excitement with the upcoming plans for the town green and Filley Park.

Councilor Hypolite also thanked the Department of Public Works for an outstanding job. He also welcomed back Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager from bereavement.

Councilor Rivers thanked the Department of Public Works for their continued efforts in maintaining the town roadways to ensure safety to all residents.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:15 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session B. – Discussion Regarding Pending Acquisition of Land with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager and Town Attorney.

At 8:43 p.m., the Council exited Executive Session B.

At 8:44 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Neuwirth to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Pending claims and Litigation

At 8:46 p.m., Council exited Executive Session A.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:47p.m.

FEBRUARY 2015 TAX REFUNDS

BREWER DAVID	2013RE	\$269.34
BUSHKA KATHLEEN	2012MV/SUP	\$55.37
CAB EAST	2013MV	\$31.13
CCAP	2013MV	\$630.77
CHASE AUTO	2013MV	\$290.82
CHRISTIAN ALDON	2013MV	\$190.56
CLARKE RONALD	2013MV	\$26.37
DAIMLER TRUST	2012MV	\$645.89
DELPHONSE WESTHO	2013MV	\$126.92
DDD TRANSPORTATION	2013MV	\$386.17
FINANCIAL SER VEH TRUST	2013MV	\$1,246.51 multiple vehicles
HONDA LEASE TRUST	2013MV	\$54.75
HYUNDAI LEASE	2013MV	\$188.53
GOLD NORENE	2013MV	\$50.93
HUANG HAOHSIN OR WONCHIN	2013MV	\$39.15

JOHNSON JUDY	2013RE	\$101.62
JP MORGAN CHASE	2013MV	\$97.21
LERETA	2013RE	\$3,192.39 double paid
LEVY PAULA	2013MV/SUP	\$293.49
LOGAN DONALD	2013RE	\$2,665.61 double paid
NILAND JAMES OR PEOPLES LUCY	2011RE	\$129.03
	2012RE	\$130.13
	2013RE	\$130.09
NISSAN INFINITI	2013MV	\$494.10
PENNYMAC	2013RE	\$184.65
6 COUNTRYVIEW DR		
PROOM CAROL EST	2013MV	\$160.29
REID NACIKI	2012MV	\$10.52
ROY DONALD	2013RE	\$252.69
STEWART TRAVIS OR SANCHIA	2013MV	\$624.71
SUPPIN DANIEL & JONI	2013RE	\$3,241.17 double paid
23 CHATEAU MARGAUX		
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	2013MV/SUP	\$107.22

USB LEASING	2013MV	\$552.83
VAULT TRUST	2012MV	\$1,154.11 multiple vehicles
WILLIAMS OWEN	2010RE	\$591.81
TOTAL REFUNDS		\$18,346.88